

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the subject application.

Listing of Claims:

What is claimed is:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) An animal chew toy comprising:

a body portion, said body comprising a compressible material and a first non-woven fabric material selectively positioned on ~~disposed partially over~~ said compressible material at locations that are prone to the chewing or biting action of said animal,

said first fabric material comprising multiple layers of ~~high performance~~ non-continuous staple fibers comprising aramid or linear polyethylene or spun liquid crystal polymer having a tensile strength greater than or equal to 50,000 psi and/or a modulus greater than or equal to 500,000 psi, which are blended with fibers having a tensile strength less than 50,000 psi and/or a modulus less than 500,000 psi,

wherein said ~~high performance fibers comprise~~ non-continuous staple fibers ~~which have a monoaxial orientation of greater than about 50% which are blended or interwoven with non high performance fiber material while still reducing tearing and puncture when chewed by an animal,~~

wherein said multiple fabric layers have an axis of orientation providing higher strength in one direction versus another direction and wherein an axis of orientation of one layer is not aligned with an axis of orientation of an adjacent layer; and

a second non-woven fabric material at least partially disposed over said compressible material and over said selectively positioned locations ~~a portion~~ of said first non-woven fabric material, said second non-woven fabric material ~~comprising~~ consisting of fibers having a tensile strength less than 50,000 psi and/or a modulus less than 500,000 psi.

Claim 2. (Previously Presented) The animal toy according to claim 1 wherein the tensile strength of said fibers of said first non-woven fabric material is greater than or equal to 100,000 psi.

Claim 3. (Previously Presented) The animal toy according to claim 1, wherein said tensile strength of said fibers of said first non-woven fabric material is greater than or equal to 200,000 psi.

Claim 4. (Previously Presented) The animal toy according to claim 1, wherein said modulus of said fibers of said first non-woven fabric material is at least 1 Mpsi.

Claim 5. (Previously Presented) The animal toy according to claim 1, wherein said modulus of said fibers of said first non-woven fabric material is between about 1 Mpsi and 30 Mpsi.

Claim 6-8. (Cancelled)

Claim 9. (Previously Presented) The animal toy according to claim 1 wherein said first and second axis of orientation intersect one another to form an angle of between 1-179 degrees.

Claim 10-11. (Cancelled)

Claim 12. (Original) The animal toy according to claim 1, wherein said compressible material comprises a foam material.

Claim 13. (Original) The animal toy according to claim 1, wherein said compressible material comprises at least one of natural and synthetic batting or fill.

Claim 14. (Original) The animal toy of claim 13 wherein said batting or fill is selected from the group consisting of polyester, nylon, cotton, wool, or mixtures thereof.

Claim 15-18. (Cancelled)

Claim 19. (Previously Presented) The animal toy of claim 1 wherein said body portion further comprises a third non-woven fabric material comprising fibers having a tensile strength greater than or equal to 50,000 psi and/or a modulus greater than or equal to 500,000 psi disposed partially over said first fabric material.

Claim 20. (Previously Presented) The animal toy of claim 19 wherein said first non-woven fabric material has a first axis of orientation and said third non-woven fabric material has a third axis of orientation at an angle of between 1-179 degrees from said first axis of orientation.

Claim 21. (Cancelled)

Claim 22. (Previously Presented) The animal toy of claim 1 wherein said compressible material is isolated to certain regions of the animal toy.

Claims 23 -27. (Cancelled)